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## Monitoring Data Checking (MDC) Software Overview

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## Purpose of this Presentation

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- ◆ To show you that MDC can be useful for you
- ◆ To help you with the monitoring plan process



## What is MDC?

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- ◆ Distributed software application developed and made available for free to support monitoring plan and quality assurance data requirements



## Why did EPA Develop MDC?

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- ◆ To improve the quality of reported data
- ◆ To enable States and EPA to review and analyze data more easily



## How do I get MDC?

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- ◆ Download from CAMD's website at:

**[www.epa.gov/airmarkets/monitoring/mdc](http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/monitoring/mdc)**



## What Kind of Computer Do I Need?

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- ◆ IBM Pentium class
- ◆ Windows 95 or higher
- ◆ 24 MB of hard drive space
- ◆ 32 MB RAM
- ◆ At least 800 x 600 screen resolution



## Can I Install on a Local Area Network?

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- ◆ Yes. MDC is network ready or can be installed on a stand alone computer.
- ◆ Share data with other company locations by exporting and importing data.



## Do I Need Training to Use and Install MDC?

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- ◆ Most users are using MDC without training. It is helpful to be familiar with the basic monitoring plan structure and record types.
- ◆ But many people have benefitted from EPA-sponsored training classes.
- ◆ Look for MDC training opportunities.



## What Steps Should I Take to Get MDC Up and Running?

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- ◆ Check with your IT staff if you are not computer literate.
- ◆ Download software and related documentation.
- ◆ Run the Installation.

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## What Steps Should I Take to Get MDC Up and Running? (cont.)

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- ◆ Import and review an existing monitoring plan for your source or download a recent EDR file for a similar source from the CAMD web site.
- ◆ Use the Getting Started document to learn software basics.
- ◆ Call for MDC technical support if you have questions or problems.



## Who Currently Uses MDC?

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- ◆ ARP sources
- ◆ OTC sources
- ◆ OTC State Agencies
- ◆ State Agency field audit staff
- ◆ EPA Regional Offices
- ◆ CAMD



## What Exactly Does MDC Do?

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- ◆ Import of monitoring plan and QA data formatted for EDR v2.1
- ◆ Data evaluation according to EPA criteria
- ◆ Reports and screen review
- ◆ Data entry of MP and QA data
- ◆ Export in EDR v2.1 format



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## Twenty Tips for Creating and Submitting Monitoring Plans



### Tip #1

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- ◆ Assign responsibility for monitoring plan development to a single person or office.



## Tip #2

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- ◆ Do NOT submit different versions of your plan to the State or EPA and in your quarterly reports.



## Tip #3

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- ◆ Make sure that you have submitted an Account Certificate of Representation for your unit to establish an Authorized Account Representative before you submit your monitoring plan.





## Tip #4

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- ◆ Make sure you know what ORIS Code or Facility ID and what unit IDs were submitted on this form, and use these EXACT identifiers in your electronic monitoring plans.

– For example, CT1 should be CT1, not CT01 or 1.



## Tip #5

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- ◆ Submit your first monitoring plan early so that any issues can be resolved before you are testing monitors or reporting data.



## Tip #6

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- ◆ If you have questions about your monitoring plan, consult the EDR instructions, policy manual and other EPA resources. If necessary, contact your State or EPA contact before submitting.



## Tip #7

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- ◆ Provide clear schematics, data flow diagrams and a narrative explanation describing your unit(s) and selected monitoring approach with your initial submission.



## Tip #8

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- ◆ Only use allowable codes throughout the monitoring plan. The codes are in MDC and in the EDR Instructions. Contact CAMD (by email) if you believe that appropriate codes are not available.



## Tip #9

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- ◆ Don't ignore MDC error messages just because you don't understand them. First, consult the help file for more detailed information about the checks and the errors found. Then call for technical assistance.



## Tip #10

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- ◆ Once your initial plan is in place, check it on a periodic basis and make corrections and changes, as appropriate. Maintain good records for your successor.



## Tip #11

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- ◆ Include RT 999 information in your electronic monitoring plan files to identify a contact person who is not the AAR. Include an accurate email address for this person.



## Tip #12

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- ◆ RT 585: Use NFS (Non-fuel specific) as the fuel type for all methodology records with a methodology code of CEM. CEMs are not limited to a type of fuel.



## Tip #13

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- ◆ RT 586: Check the accuracy of the control equipment codes and dates.



## Tip #14

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- ◆ RT 586: If you have Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners installed, be sure to consult the code descriptions in the EDR instructions and report the correct code.



## Tip #15

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- ◆ RT 507: Submit RT 507 in your monitoring plan if you have a peaking unit. Update this record each year to include the data from the prior year. Keep it current!



## Tip #16

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- ◆ RT 520: Provide a formula code in EVERY formula record.



## Tip #17

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- ◆ In any record containing start or activation dates, report the actual date, not the first day of the reporting quarter.



## Tip #18

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- ◆ RT 530: Remember that span under Part 75 is a characteristic of a specific unit or stack, not a particular analyzer.



## Tip #19

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- ◆ RT 530: If you change span values, read the EDR instructions carefully! It is important to preserve prior information so that earlier tests are evaluated properly.





## Tip #20

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- ◆ RT 536: Do not change the dates on your RT 536 (Range of Operation, Normal Load and Load Usage) each quarter. This analysis only has to be done once each year.



## Top Ten Reasons to Use MDC

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## Reason #10

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- ◆ Gives you confidence before you submit data to EPA.



## Reason #9

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- ◆ Helps you to communicate with your State and EPA about your monitoring plan.



## Reason #8

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- ◆ Keeps your DAHS vendor and testing companies on track.



## Reason #7

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- ◆ Reduces multiple submissions – saves you time and money.



## Reason #6

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- ◆ Contains great help file with EDR instructions and all checks.



## Reason #5

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- ◆ Reduces anxiety. Be certain that you won't receive an email that says "You must resubmit your EDR."



## Reason #4

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- ◆ You don't have to figure out how to use SecuRemote.



## Reason #3

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- ◆ Prints monitoring plan and QA data in a readable format so you don't have to look at the EDR ASCII formats.



## Reason #2

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- ◆ It's free. You have no excuses. And there is technical support.



## Reason #1

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- ◆ EPA strongly recommends it!



## Coming MDC Attractions!

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- ◆ MDC-FTP: Allows you to submit your monitoring plan and certification data directly to EPA from the software through the Internet. Checks all data first.
- ◆ MDC Hourly: Pre-submission checking software for hourly emissions data.



## Questions? Last Tips...

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- ◆ Visit the MDC demonstration in the lobby area.
- ◆ Watch for information about and upgrades to MDC on the CAMD Website:  
**[www.epa.gov/airmarkets/monitoring/mdc](http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/monitoring/mdc)**
- ◆ Use MDC Technical Support:  
**[mdc@pqa.com](mailto:mdc@pqa.com) or 804-979-3700.**

